

Appl. No. 10/643,249
Docket No. 351913-992780
Response to Office Action of January 5, 2007

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

JAN 24 2007

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action of September 28, 2006.
Reconsideration of the amendment is requested.

1. The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they allegedly do not show every feature of the claim. In particular, the feature with regard to the decoder/interface circuit for receiving communication signals from the communication bus and for decoding the communication signals and for generating a plurality of protocol signals of claims 11-19 were alleged not shown. Applicants respectfully submit that with the amendment herein, this objection is overcome.

At the outset, applicants submits that Figure 7 shows an embodiment of the decoder circuit 86 decoding and generating a plurality of protocol signals, all supplied to the fuse logic circuit 70. Nevertheless, in an effort to streamline the prosecution of this case, independent claims 11 and 18 have been amended to recite the generation of a "protocol select signal" which is clearly shown in Figure 6. Thus, based upon the foregoing this rejection is overcome.

2. Claims 11-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. According to the examiner, the interface/decoder circuit "for receiving communication signals from the communication bus and for decoding the communication signals and for generating a plurality of protocol signals" is not enabled. According to the examiner, the specification lacks enablement for an interface/decoder circuit for "generating a plurality of protocol signals". Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In particular, the examiner's attention is directed to Figure 7 and paragraphs [0023] and [0024] which shows that either the output signal of the OR gate 96 is "high" or "1" signifying the bus is operating in the FWH protocol, or the output of the AND gate 94 is "high" or "1" signifying that the bus is operating in a LPC mode. Thus a plurality of protocol signals is generated by the decoder 86, as described in the specification. Therefore, the specification is enabled describing the generation of a plurality of protocol signals.

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Nevertheless, as discussed previously, in an effort to expedite the prosecution of this application, claims 11-19 have been amended. Therefore, this rejection is overcome.

3. Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by USP 6,851,014 (Chang et al.). This rejection is hereby traversed.

Applicants note that the examiner maintains that a first non-volatile memory for storing the protocol select signal is inherent in the Protocol Detection CKT 210 shown in Figure 9 for storing the SEL signal. Applicants disagree, as discussed in response to previous office actions. Nevertheless, there is an additional reason why the examiner's rejection of claim 20 on the basis of Chang et al is incorrect.

In applicants' invention as claimed in claim 20, which is reflective of the embodiment shown in Figure 7, the signals are connected and supplied to one another in a specific manner. In claim 20, the controller (shown as the FSM or Finite State Machine 62) receives the delayed communication signal and the protocol select signal. Further, the delayed communication signal is generated by the delayed circuit (or the FIFO 88), while the protocol select signal is generated by the first non-volatile memory (or the Fuse Logic 70). According to the examiner, the Protocol Detection CKT 210 of Chang et al. is or contains the first non-volatile memory; the SEL of Chang et al. is the protocol select signal, while the MUX 902 of Chang et al. is the delay circuit that generates the delayed communication signal; and finally the FWH protocol Circuit 206 or the LPC protocol Circuit 208 of Chang et al. is the controller. However, the FWH protocol Circuit 206 or the LPC protocol Circuit 208 of Chang et al. does not receive the SEL signal from the Protocol Detection CKT 210. In contrast in claim 20 as recited, the controller receives the protocol select signal. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that this distinction alone overcomes the examiner's rejection.

It is submitted that claims 11-20 are allowable, and allowance and issuance of this application is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in an allowable form, and action to that end is respectfully requested.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 07-1896, referencing docket number 351913-992780.

Respectfully submitted,

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